

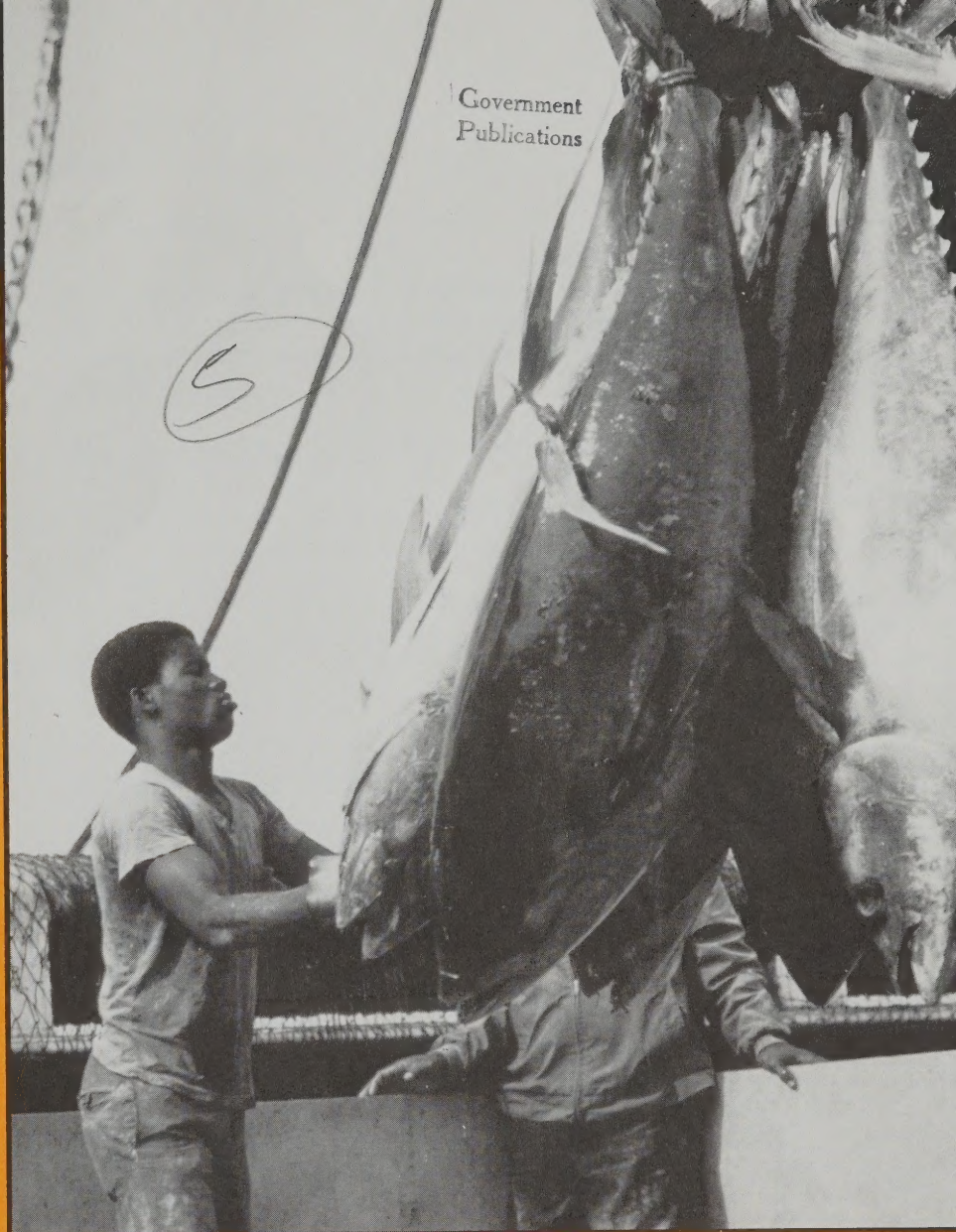
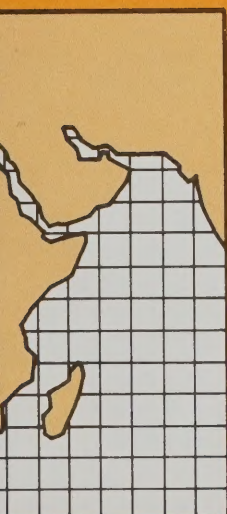
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Country Profile **Ivory Coast**

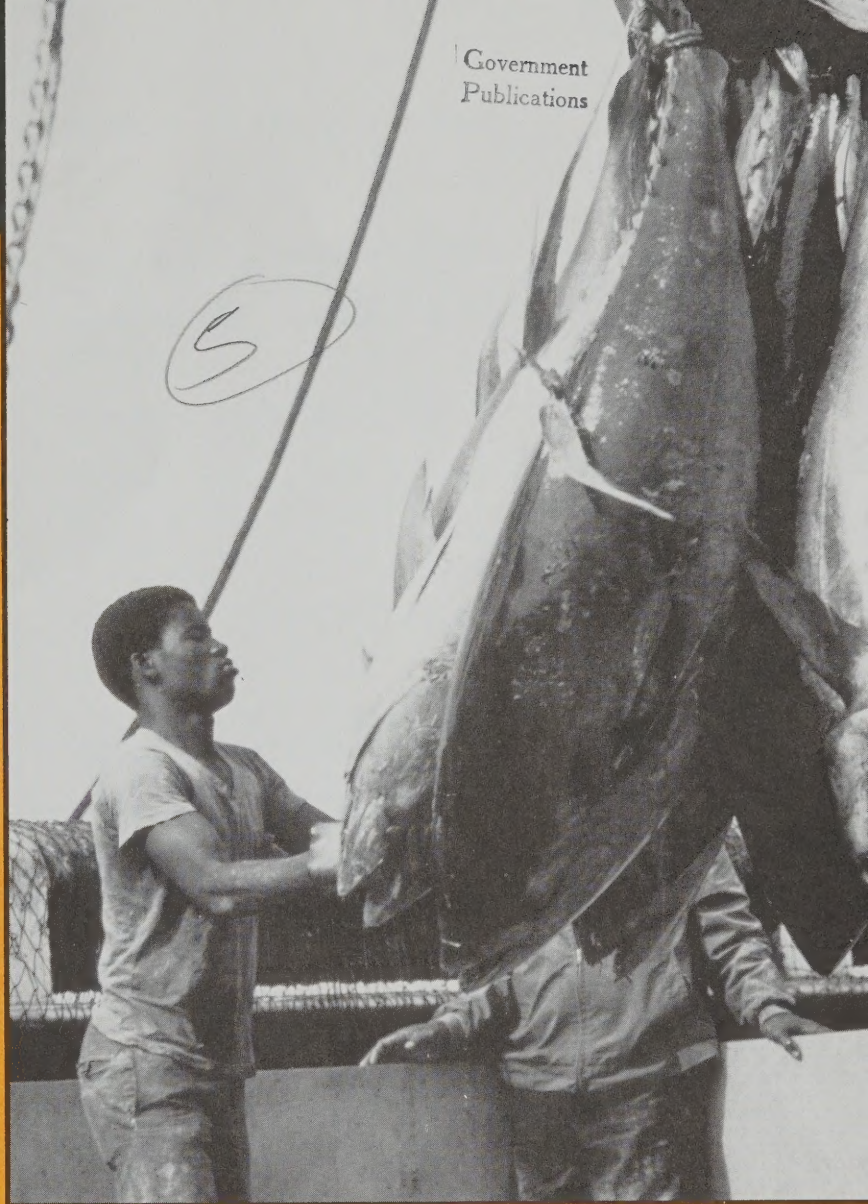
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Country Profile **Ivory Coast**

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Profile

Official name	Republic of the Ivory Coast
Capital	Yamoussoukro
Topography	Vast granite plateau sloping from north to south; northern region is somewhat mountainous; southern region of lagoons and swamps
Climate	Southern equatorial; northern tropical
Principal crops	Coffee, cocoa, fruits, tapioca, rice, corn, millet, cotton, palm oil, coconut palm, rubber
Resources	forestry, fisheries, tourism
Official language	French
Other languages spoken	Agni, Baule, Senufo, Malinke, Bambara, Diula
Ethnic groups	Akans, Lagoons, Krous, Manda, Senufo, Lobi
Religions	Animism, Islam, Christianity
Date of independence	August 7, 1960

Comparative Data

	<u>Ivory Coast</u>	<u>Canada</u>
Area	322,463 km ²	9,976,139 km ²
Population (1983)	9.5 million	25 million
Population density	29 persons/km ²	2.6 persons/km ²
Urbanization	44%	75%
Life expectancy at birth (1982)	52 years	76 years
Infant mortality rate	121 per 1,000 live births	9 per 1,000 live births
Daily per capita calorie supply as percentage of requirement	115	129
Adult literacy	20%	99%

	<u>Ivory Coast</u>	<u>Canada</u>
Primary school enrolment (1982) as % of age group		
Total	76%	104%
boys	92%	105%
girls	60%	103%
Percentage of labour force in:		
agriculture	79%	5%
industry	4%	29%
services	17%	66%
% of population of under 15 (1983)	44.6%	23.2%
Per capita gross national product (1982)	\$710 US	\$12,310 US
Average annual growth of GNP (1965-1983)	1%	2.5%
Average annual rate of inflation (1973-1983)	11.9%	9.4%
External public debt as % of GNP	78.8%	1.35%
Debt service as % of GNP	12.9%	4.96%
Current account balance (US\$)	- \$743 million	\$1,380 million
Principal exports	Coffee, cocoa, palm oil, wood	
Principal imports	Petroleum products, mechanical and electrical equipment, cereals, vehicles, iron and steel, fresh fish	
Exports to Canada	Cocoa and chocolate, coffee, wood, veneer	
Imports from Canada	Aluminum, including alloys, motors and turbines, electrical materials, prefabricated buildings and structures	
Principal trading partners	France, Netherlands, United States, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan	

COUNTRY PROGRAMS

Canadian development assistance in the Ivory Coast began in the early sixties and was formalized on June 10, 1966 by a general technical and cultural cooperation agreement. This agreement was renegotiated on January 11, 1985. It is divided into three main phases.

In Phase I (1961 to 1968) Canada supplied various resources, particularly of a technical and administrative nature, reflecting Canadian expertise and skills to help the Ivory Coast take charge of its own development. The primary goal of Phase II (1968 to 1975) was to provide assistance in the field of education. Phase III, which began in the transitional year of 1975, has increasingly focused cooperation on projects that benefit both countries, without, however, neglecting the satisfaction of basic human needs and the improvement of the living conditions of the poorest members of Ivorian society.

CIDA's aid has totalled \$110 million to the Ivory Coast over nineteen years (1966-1985). Some thirty bilateral projects were carried out during that time. These projects were spread over more than ten sectors; since 1976 the emphasis has been on the following sectors: transportation, education, rural water supply, mining and energy.

The Ivory Coast has also received \$1.6 million from CIDA's Special Programs Branch (Canadian and international NGOs) and \$1.4 million through institutional cooperation projects. The Business Cooperation Branch's Industrial Cooperation Program has provided \$3.5 million as well.

According to a 1981 evaluation, CIDA's bilateral program in the Ivory Coast particularly from 1976 to 1981, is proving successful. The concentration of Canadian cooperation in areas of mutual interest is seen primarily in large-scale projects that have been planned or implemented in the infrastructure sector and in projects that have already had or are likely to have a favourable economic impact on Canada. The transfer of control to Ivory Coast nationals was also an important aspect of most bilateral activities of this period.

Since 1981, new directions have been proposed. These aim at linking Ivorian and Canadian institutions and businesses in order to better serve the mutual interests of both countries. Given the exceptional level of development attained by the Ivory Coast, the program represents a transition from a relationship based primarily on aid to a relationship of cooperation founded increasingly on the mutual interests of both countries. To achieve this objective, current traditional aid projects will be maintained, but two new mechanisms are being introduced: aid to small and medium-sized industries and multisectoral cooperation. This new collaboration will take the form of a line of credit of \$25 million for the purchase of Canadian goods and services.

BILATERAL ASSISTANCE

Rural Development

In the area of village water resources, Canadian participation was decisive in the establishment of Ivorian agencies such as the village water resources section within the central water resources branch, the national drilling company, and the water quality control service.

All these agencies are operational and are now largely under Ivorian control. The Canadian team also played a large part in the exploration, drilling and control of water sites and in the testing of drinking water. This cooperative venture was part of a regional funding project for rural development and is divided into three Phases: Phase I, 1968 to 1975, \$5.8 million; Phase II, 1975 to 1981, \$5.0 million; Phase III, 1981-1985, \$1.9 million.

Fertile soil and good climatic conditions, with high humidity, have facilitated the development of a prosperous and highly diversified agricultural sector. Arable land accounts for fifty-two per cent of the Ivory Coast's territory, and almost all the country's exports come from the agricultural sector. The country is divided into two major agricultural regions: the south produces commercial crops and the north grows food crops. *

The main commercial crops are, in order of importance, cocoa, coffee, pineapples, palm oil, bananas and seed cotton. In addition, rubber, sugar and copra are produced on a small scale.

Coffee occupies a central place in the Ivorian economy. It is primarily a family crop and is produced on approximately 200,000 plantations. One of every two people in the Ivory coast is in some way involved in coffee production. The Ivory Coast is the largest coffee producer in Africa and the fourth largest in the world. In addition, in 1980, the country became the leading world producer of cocoa, but the sharp decline in the price of this product led it to adopt a policy of stockpiling.

The government has introduced a wide-ranging diversification plan over the past twelve years aimed at increasing palm oil production and export. Pineapple, the third largest commercial crop, is mainly exported as juice or canned fruit. The production of seed cotton is also increasing, but because of the drop in the world price and difficulties in the textile industry, the government has decided to put a ceiling on production.

Food crops are grown primarily in the north, with the main ones being plantains, yams and cassava. Rice has recently been introduced as a crop, and numerous rice-growing operations adapted to the soil and climate have been set up in the various regions. The country is still importing too much food and the government is hoping for a marked change in agriculture and the rural setting. It plans to achieve this by using modern techniques and by promoting family farms.

The Ivory Coast received food aid only during the 1977-1978 drought. A total of \$2.8 million US was provided to the country by international organizations.

Mining

The mining sector plays a secondary role in the Ivorian economy. In fact, the country's subsoil has still not been extensively surveyed, and the government is currently carrying out this task. In addition to diamonds, numerous gold, nickel and iron deposits have been found. The mining sector should develop rapidly between now and the end of the decade.

Canada's involvement in this sector has taken the form of two CIDA projects. The first was a geophysical prospecting project, and consisted primarily of supplying technical assistance. Cooperants carried out geophysical surveys and drew up maps to facilitate the identification of geological formations. The Canadian contribution to this project was \$3.2 million. The aim of the second project, the International Mining Exploration Program, was to provide a state corporation (SODEMI) with physical exploration and drilling capabilities. The implementation of this project, at a cost of \$2.9 million, made it possible to set up a geophysical and boring service and to designate exact sites for prospecting. It includes equipment and technical assistance.

Energy

Electricity is produced and distributed throughout the country by the Ivory Coast electricity utility (EECI).

The region that is already connected - Abidjan and the Centre - is the largest consumer of electricity. This region alone consumes 62 per cent of the total electrical output and has the largest power plants. Besides the two thermal generating stations at Abidjan, there are several hydro-electric plants: the Ayamé I and the Ayamé II dams, the Kossou development on the Bandama, the Taabo development and the Buyo dam on the Sassandra.

About fifty diesel-powered generating stations are located throughout the country, but their capacity is very limited (barely fifteen per cent of the total energy output). Extensive rural electrification is planned. Hydro-electric potential exceeds 2,000 MW and present capacity is 614 MW; thus reserves are more than sufficient to meet foreseeable needs. Although the authorities plan to connect isolated generating stations to the network in the medium term, only the main centres of the country are now connected to the system and only about fifteen per cent of the population has electricity.

The basic aim of CIDA's four projects in this sector is to help plan the country's rural electrification network, which is the responsibility of the state utility, the EECI. The projects in which CIDA is involved are: the Kossou I electrification project, 1971-1977, \$6.5 million; the Kossou-Daloa electrification project, 1978 and still ongoing, \$3 million; EECI, radial feeder networks, 1981-1986, \$41 million.

The aim of the first two projects has been to help the Ivory Coast to buy equipment to construct transmission lines and set up stations in the under-developed northern part of the Ivory Coast, thereby helping to reduce regional disparities and open up the Sahel countries.

The EECI project aims at the electrification of villages in the north-west of the country. This project is being carried out jointly with other partners (the World Bank, EDC and others). Total Canadian participation comes to about fifty-six per cent of all investments by donor countries (total: \$164 million; CIDA: \$41 million; EDC: \$50 million).

Forestry

Forests cover almost half the area of the country. With nearly 200 species, including mahogany, makire and iroko, the Ivory Coast is the largest producer of undressed timber in Africa. However, the harvestable area dropped from ten million hectares in 1966 to three million in 1982. The deforestation is mainly due to the clearing of land for agriculture. Since the forest reserves cannot be adequately replaced by the reforestation campaign, the government is planning to reduce exports gradually. It is also trying to move toward multipurpose woods and fast-growing species. It is also encouraging as much on-site wood processing as possible in order to export more finished products.

Canadian participation in this area has been limited to one project: a feasibility study carried out between 1975 and 1978 at a cost of \$400,000. The project consisted of conducting four studies to determine the feasibility of building a pulp and paper mill in the southwest region of the Ivory Coast. The studies dealt with the choice of a site, the cost of wood delivered to the mill, other uses of wood suitable for paper and finally laboratory tests on pulp from the country's tropical woods. In addition, the World Bank is involved in a reforestation project, to which Canada may contribute in the future.

Education

Much has been done to provide the Ivory Coast with a modern and efficient system of education. Primary education lasting six years is now obligatory; attendance is 83.5 per cent. With a view to reaching an even greater number of children, the government set up educational television, but many problems have hampered its use.

Secondary education, lasting seven years, is reminiscent of the French educational system. The level of attendance is much lower than at the primary level. Post-secondary education is available at five institutes and a college, and at the national university at Abidjan.

The educational sector is well structured, but problems arise because the training is not suited to labor market needs, particularly in rural areas and at the post-secondary level, and because there is a bottleneck at the general secondary level.

CIDA's first involvement in the Ivory Coast was in the area of education. It consisted mainly of supplying teachers to various teaching institutions in the country and offering training scholarships to Ivorian nationals. The projects of this type were the following:

teachers' college instructors	1969-1975	\$371,200
technical school instructors	1968-1975	\$463,400
university instructors	1971-1978	\$1.2 million
private secondary school teachers	1968-1978	\$846,600
teachers from Notre Dame College	1974-1975	\$18,300
public secondary school teachers	1968-1977	\$2.7 million
various scholarships	1968-ongoing	\$367,900

Two other projects have been carried out in the education sector:

Institute of criminology, 1971-1978, \$353,700
Experts for the Institute for Pedagogical Research, 1972-1975, \$234,900
Educational television, \$10.1 million
School of hotel management, 1974-1985, \$8.1 million

All the projects in education were begun before 1975. No projects are planned for the next few years. Most of the nine projects involved supplying teachers to various academic institutions. For their part, the educational television and hotel management training projects are integrated projects comprising technical assistance, training and the purchase of equipment. The scholarship program involves individual training in Canada for Ivory Coast nationals. It should be noted that both integrated projects emphasize training and transition to Ivorian control in order to promote autonomy in these areas of activity.

Thus, in the case of the hotel management school, the primary aim of the project was to set up an autonomous, operational training centre. The establishment of the centre required first of all that it be built; Canada supplied plans, some equipment and materials. It also supplied technical assistance to train Ivorians working in various sectors of the hotel industry and training in Canada for a number of Ivorian counterparts.

Other areas

Through bilateral channels, CIDA is carrying out various projects in other areas, such as transportation; it has also established small mission-administered projects and lines of credit, which are multisectoral activities.

CIDA's involvement in the transportation sector comprises two projects: improvement of the rail system RAN I, and RAN II. The purpose of the RAN I project was to assist the Ivory Coast to purchase equipment to improve the rail system (purchase of 18 GM locomotives, 210 freight cars, 7,052 tons of rails), thereby reducing regional disparity, and to help open up the neighbouring Sahelian Countries. RAN II consists of supplying two technicians to make major modifications and buy spare parts for Canadian locomotives. The second phase will complement the first. The first phase

was carried out in cooperation with other international aid agencies (AID, IBRD) and countries bordering on the Ivory Coast. The total CIDA contribution for both projects is \$18 million.

In 1984-1985, \$350,000 was contributed in mission administered funds (MAF) for multisectoral assistance to projects that have relatively small budgets but a significant impact on the poorest people in rural areas while keeping administrative costs low.

A line of credit of \$25 million has been allocated to supply Canadian services in technical assistance, training, consultants and equipment purchases. A \$3 million contribution has been added for the services of an executing agency.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Non-governmental organizations

The Canadian Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) Division of CIDA's Special Programs Branch has been providing assistance to the Ivory Coast since 1970. In total, twenty-four projects involving \$603,200 have received funding under this program.

Most projects relate to social development (nineteen of twenty-four projects); thirteen of these nineteen are in the education sector. Moreover, this sector has received funding totalling 72.5 per cent of the grants allocated. The five other projects that were financed are in the rural development sector.

In general, the NGO program concentrates on the least-developed countries. The Ivory Coast, given the level of its development, is thus not a priority country for the NGO program. Moreover, since 1978-1979, funding to NGOs working in this country has declined considerably.

Among NGOs working in the Ivory Coast, the CCODP (Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace) has been by far the main beneficiary of Canadian aid, receiving 47.5 per cent of the total contributions allocated to this country. Other major beneficiaries are the Brothers of the Sacred Heart (24.2 per cent), Famé Pereo (6.3 per cent) and the University of Montreal (5.3 per cent).

Three CIDA grants (with an impact on the Ivory Coast) have been allocated to international NGOs for projects in agriculture, health and the hiring of two child care workers.

Institutional cooperation

The main purpose of CIDA's institutional cooperation program is to create links between Canadian institutions and their counterparts in developing countries in order to promote joint development activities.

The major activity directly affecting the Ivory Coast is the CAFE project (a self-taught course in written French), carried out jointly by the University of Montreal and the University of Abidjan. CIDA's contribution to this project for 1981 to 1984 was \$349,000.

BUSINESS COOPERATION

Industrial cooperation

The Ivory Coast is the most industrialized country in French-speaking Africa. The industrial growth of this country is due to government policies which have managed to attract capital as well as foreign technical expertise. The government is now encouraging private firms to take over numerous industrial sectors; it is also promoting the transfer to Ivorian control of industrial assets, of which about 45 per cent are now in Ivorian hands.

CIDA's industrial cooperation program has made it possible to finance activities in the Ivory Coast since 1971. The program began very slowly, but important opportunities have developed since 1982. Since that year, the program has received more than 45 applications and accepted about thirty. More than \$3.5 million has been allocated to Canadian businesses as a result. This amount has been shared among numerous companies to enable them to analyse the feasibility of joint business ventures or infrastructure projects in the Ivory Coast. Areas with good potential include: vegetable canning and grain storage, paper recycling, and pharmaceuticals manufacturing.

In addition, in November 1984, the Industrial Cooperation Division organized a \$600,000 Canadian technology exhibition in which twenty-four Canadian companies took part. More than one thousand Ivorian civil servants and industrialists, as well as about sixty industrialists from 17 neighbouring countries, were invited to this exhibition.

MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE

The contributions of the Multilateral Branch to the Ivory Coast cannot be estimated accurately, since these programs are based on a policy of support to institutions rather than to countries or regions.

Altogether Canadian multilateral aid is directed to some sixty-five agencies or institutions, including a number with activities in the Ivory Coast.

CIDA gives substantial aid to the following programs and institutions in French-speaking Africa that have an impact on the Ivory Coast:

- programs for French-speaking countries (\$1.4 million in 1979-1980)
- the campaign against onchocerciasis, or river blindness (\$3.5 million)
- the African Development Bank (about \$7 million)
- the African Development Fund (about \$163 million since 1972).

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